



Department of Justice

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Western District of Kentucky

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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RETIRED MURRAY POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFICER PLEADS GUILTY TO DRUG TRAFFICKING & GUN CHARGES

PADUCAH, KY - **Garnett Dean Alexander**, age 58, of Murray, Kentucky, pled guilty to possession with intent to distribute powder cocaine. Alexander also pled guilty to possession of four firearms while being an unlawful user and addicted to cocaine, including a Norinco SKS, an Imi 9mm, an Uzi, Llama .45, and a Smith & Wesson .357, David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, and Paul Vido, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Louisville Field Division, jointly announced today. Alexander was a former detective with the Murray Police Department and retired in 1997 after 20 years of service.

U.S. Attorney Huber praised the "smart police work of the Calloway County Sheriff's Office in removing a drug dealer from our community."

On April 29, 2006, Calloway County Sheriff's Office searched Alexander's residence and found 64 grams of powder cocaine. In a related search, officers found a total of 4 firearms possessed by Alexander. The street value of the cocaine seized is approximately \$6400. If convicted, Alexander faces maximum potential penalties of 30 years imprisonment, a \$1,250,000 fine, and supervised release for life.

This is a **Project Backfire** prosecution. **Project Backfire** is a partnership of state, local and federal law enforcement to ensure that firearm offenses are prosecuted to the fullest extent of the state and federal law.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Amy M. Sullivan. The Bowling Green Field Office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) conducted the investigation in partnership with the Calloway County Sheriff's Department , as part of ATF's mandated mission to reduce violent crime and other threats to public safety.

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